Second broad gauge line between Ahmedabad and Rajkot

584. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to lay a second track of broad gauge line between Ahmedabad and Rajkot (Gujarat State);

(b) the time-frame by which the project is to be completed and the total expenditure to be incurred on the project; and

(c) looking to the fast industrial development and investment of nearly Rs.35,000/- crores in Jamnagar District of Gujarat whether laying of second track upto Okha is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) On Ahmedabad-Rajkot-Okha section double broad gauge line already exists on Ahmedabad-Viramgam section. There is no proposal to double the balance Viramgam-Rajkot-Okha line.

Proposal to run the trains by CNG and diesel

†585. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to run the trains by a mixture of CNG and diesel is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision to this effect is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A feasibility trial is contemplated.

(b) One Diesel Multiple Unit is undergoing modifications. However, not all problems have been overcome so far.

(c) It is premature to take a view on this aspect. Should initial trial be successful, ways and means to consolidate energy security, environment friendliness and economies of operation, will be explored on Railways.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.